



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 0492479-0033 (MGH 2231)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Xudong Huang	Examiner:	Laura L. Stockton
Serial No.:	10/762,965	Art Unit:	1626
Filing Date:	January 22, 2004		
Title:	Amyloid-Binding, Metal-Chelating Agents		

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Applicant respectfully requests a one (1) month extension of time, from February 23, 2006, to and including March 23, 2006, to reply to the Restriction/Election Requirement mailed January 23, 2006 in the above-referenced case. With the extension, the deadline for replying to the Restriction Requirement is March 23, 2006. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the filing of the present Response on March 23, 2006 is timely.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant elects **Group VII**, directed to claims 123-142, drawn to a contrast imaging agent, classified in class 424, subclass 1.11+, and explicitly reserves the right to pursue any or all of the claims of the other Groups in continuation or divisional applications. Applicant also understands that process claims 143-170 (Group VIII), which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the compound claims of Group VII, are withdrawn from consideration until a compound claim of Group VII is found allowable, at which time process claims of Group VIII commensurate in scope with the allowed compound will be rejoined with the provisions of MPEP § 821. 04.


Applicant hereby also elects the following single species from Group VII for prosecution on the merits: a contrast imaging agent wherein gadolinium III (Gd^{3+}) is complexed to the bifunctional molecule presented on Fig. 4A.

For purposes of clarity, Applicant interprets the Office Action as requiring restriction between the separate inventions of Groups I, II, III, IV, V and VI; Groups I, II and III constituting patentably distinct species of the genus represented by at least claim 96¹ and Groups IV, V and VI constituting patentably distinct species of the genus represented by at least claim 106. Thus, in the event Applicant pursues a divisional filing with a claim directed to one of the aforementioned patentably distinct species, examination of any claims generic to such species would be required pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.146.


Please charge any fees that may be associated with this matter, or credit any overpayments, to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 23, 2006


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I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
March 23, 2006	
Date	Signature
	Mary Wilson
Typed or Printed Name of person signing certificate	

¹ In view of Applicant's interpretation, claim 98 should be omitted from Group I and claim 97 should be omitted from Group II.